

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM
CONGRESSMAN TOM DAVIS, CHAIRMAN



For Immediate Release

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***** MEDIA ADVISORY *****

**Chairmen Davis, Collins to Hold Joint Committee Hearing on Principles
for Postal Reform**
Tuesday, March 23, 2:30 p.m., 2154 Rayburn House Office Building

WASHINGTON, D.C.- House Government Reform Committee Chairman Tom Davis (R-VA) and Senate Governmental Affairs Committee Chairman Susan Collins (R-ME) today announced that they will hold a joint public hearing on Tuesday, March 23, 2004, to discuss principles for U.S. Postal Service (USPS) reform.

The hearing, titled "The Postal Service in Crisis: A Joint Senate-House Hearing on Principles for Meaningful Reform," will be held at 2:30 p.m. in room 2154 of the Rayburn House Office Building.

Witnesses will include US Treasury Secretary John Snow and USPS Postmaster General John Potter.

In July 2003, the Presidential Commission on the U.S. Postal Service completed its report on the challenges facing the Postal Service and recommended solutions to ensure its long-term viability and increased efficiency. Since that time, the House and Senate committees have held several hearings examining the recommendations.

The Postal Service is the 11th largest enterprise in the nation. It employs more than 730,000 career employees, and is also the linchpin of a \$900 billion mailing industry that employs nine million Americans in diverse fields. However, the Postal Service is presently paying down \$5 billion in debt to the U.S. Treasury, and its long-term liabilities are enormous—nearly \$7 billion for Workers' Compensation claims, \$5 billion for retirement costs, and as much as \$57 billion to cover retiree health care costs.

Chairman Davis plans to introduce postal reform legislation in the near future, along with the Committee's Ranking Member, Henry Waxman, and Representatives John McHugh and Danny Davis.

The Committee will hear testimony from the following witnesses:

The Honorable John W. Snow, Secretary
U.S. Department of the Treasury

The Honorable Brian C. Roseboro, Acting Undersecretary for Domestic Finance
U.S. Department of the Treasury

The Honorable John E. Potter, Postmaster General of the United States
United States Postal Service

The Honorable S. David Fineman, Chairman
United States Postal Service Board of Governors

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